

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 080347
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S-LRMACFARLANE:LFS
APPROVED BY AF-WBEDMONDSON
S/S-O:R CASTRODALE

-----018590 290527Z /21

O 290512Z MAR 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 080347

NODIS
CAPE TOWN FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1,2

TAGS: PDIP, US, SF, RH, WA

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL LETTER TO VORSTER

1. PRESIDENT JUST PRIOR TO DEPARTURE ON LATIN AMERICA/
AFRICA TRIP SIGNED FOLLOWING LETTER WHICH SHOULD BE
PASSED TO PRIME MINISTER VORSTER AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY.

2. TEXT FOLLOWS: DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER: IT HAS BEEN
SOME TIME SINCE WE HAVE EXCHANGED VIEWS, AND I FELT IT
PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE AT THIS TIME TO GIVE YOU MY
THOUGHTS ON TWO ISSUES OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO BOTH OUR
COUNTRIES: NAMIBIA AND RHODESIA.

WITHIN A FEW DAYS, YOU WILL BE RECEIVING A REVISED
NAMIBIA PROPOSAL THAT REPRESENTS ALMOST A YEAR OF
INTENSIVE AND SOMETIMES DIFFICULT DISCUSSIONS AMONG
THE FIVE WESTERN MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, YOUR
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GOVERNMENT, AND OTHER PARTIES. I AM CONVINCED THAT
IT CAN BRING ABOUT NAMIBIA'S TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENCE
IN A WAY THAT YOU AND THE WORLD COMMUNITY WILL RECOGNIZE
AS LEGITIMATE AND FAIR. IT CAN ALSO CREATE AN OVERALL
POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE THAT WOULD GREATLY STRENGTHEN THE
HAND OF THOSE WORKING FOR PEACE AND MODERATION IN SOUTH-
ERN AFRICA. I ASK YOU TO BEAR THIS IN MIND IN CONSIDER-

ING THE PROPOSAL, AND TO BEAR IN MIND AS WELL THAT THE FIVE WESTERN MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ARE FULLY COMMITTED TO ITS SUCCESS. I URGE YOUR GOVERNMENT TO JOIN WITH US AS A DEMONSTRATION OF SOUTH AFRICA'S WILLINGNESS TO WORK TOWARD SHARED OBJECTIVES.

THE CRITICAL SITUATION IN RHODESIA ALSO DEMANDS THE ATTENTION OF BOTH OUR GOVERNMENTS. I BELIEVE THAT THE SALISBURY AGREEMENT IS INADEQUATE TO THE TASK OF BRINGING ABOUT AN ENDURING AND PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. WITHOUT A MORE COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT, THE FIGHTING WILL CONTINUE AND ESCALATE, OFFERING FURTHER OPPORTUNITY FOR THE EXTERNAL INTERVENTION THAT ALL OF US HOPE TO AVOID.

I BELIEVE THAT A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT CAN BEST BE ADVANCED BY RESTORING MOMENTUM TO THE ANGLO-AMERICAN NEGOTIATING EFFORT THROUGH MEETINGS OF ALL PARTIES. THE SIGNERS OF THE SALISBURY AGREEMENT WOULD BE INCLUDED AS WELL AS THE PATRIOTIC FRONT, AND SERIOUS EFFORT WOULD BE MADE TO NARROW THEIR DIFFERENCES. THE INITIAL RESPONSES TO THIS IDEA HAVE BEEN REGRETTABLY NEGATIVE. EACH OF THE PRINCIPAL PARTIES APPEARS MORE INTERESTED IN PRE-SERVING ITS PERCEIVED SHORT-TERM ADVANTAGE THAN IN COMING TO GRIPS WITH THE PROSPECTS OF INCREASING VIOLENCE.

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I HAVE ASKED AMBASSADOR YOUNG TO URGE THE LEADERS OF THE FRONT LINE STATES TO INFLUENCE THE PATRIOTIC FRONT TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH A MEETING. I SHALL MAKE THE SAME POINT TO GENERAL OBASANJO WHEN I VISIT LAGOS. I HOPE THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT WILL MAKE A SIMILAR PLEA FOR CONCILIATION AND COOPERATION WITH THE AUTHORITIES IN SALISBURY.

IN YOUR LETTER OF LAST NOVEMBER, YOU MADE CLEAR YOUR OPPOSITION TO ANY ARRANGEMENT, IN RHODESIA OR NAMIBIA, THAT WOULD DENY THE PEOPLES OF THESE TERRITORIES THEIR INHERENT RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION. I SHARE YOUR CONCERN ON THIS POINT, AND IT IS PRECISELY FOR THIS REASON THAT WE MUST PURSUE SOLUTIONS THAT SHOW PROMISE OF LEADING TO THE ESSENTIAL GOALS OF REGIONAL STABILITY AND SELF-DETERMINATION.

I FULLY APPRECIATE THE DEEP CONCERN WITH WHICH YOU AND YOUR COUNTRYMEN VIEW THESE PROBLEMS. I WANT TO ASSURE YOU THAT WE WILL NOT FALTER IN OUR SEARCH FOR SOLUTIONS THAT ARE BOTH PEACEFUL AND JUST. SINCERELY, JIMMY CARTER.
END TEXT.

3. FYI: WHILE KAPUUO ASSASSINATION DOES NOT CHANGE
THRUST OR PURPOSE OF LETTER, YOU MAY WISH TO NOTE, IN
VIEW OF ABSENCE OF ANY REFERENCE TO THIS EVENT IN LETTER,
THAT LETTER WAS DRAFTED AND SIGNED JUST PRIOR TO RECEIPT
OF REPORT OF ASSASSINATION. COOPER

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PAGE 01 STATE 080347 TOSEC 030060
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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DRAFTED BY: AF:WBEDMONDSON

APPROVED BY: AF:RMMOOSE

S/S-O:GOLDSMITH

-----028420 292129Z /62

R 292045Z MAR 78 ZFF5

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO RUEHCR/AMEMBASSY GABORONE 3898

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USDEL SECRETARY

S E C R E T STATE 080347 TOSEC 030060

NODIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 080347 SENT ACTION CAPE TOWN 29 MAR 78

QUOTE S E C R E T STATE 080347

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DRAFTED BY IO/UNA:BJSHARP
APPROVED BY IO/UNA:JFTEFFT
S/S-O:SGOLDSMITH

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
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USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 080347

NODIS
FOR AMB YOUNG FROM UNA

FOL RPT STATE 080347 ACTION CAPE TOWN 29 MAR 78 QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 080347

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OF REPORT OF ASSASSINATION. COOPER

UNQUOTE COOPER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: TEXT, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, INTERIM GOVERNMENT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, NEGOTIATIONS, SELFDETERMINATION, CAT-B
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: DC IS ALSO X2
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: dbc1d1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
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Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3157132
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENTIAL LETTER TO VORSTER
TAGS: PDIP, PPDC, RH, US, SF, ZI, WA, (CARTER, JIMMY), (VORSTER, BALTHAZAR JOHANNES)
To: CAPE TOWN
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/dbc1d1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
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